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R 060659Z JUN 06  
FM AMCONSUL ADANA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4179  
INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 0728  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 0629  
RUEHDA/AMCONSUL ADANA 0779

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER ASEC TU

SUBJECT: TURKEY: SATURDAY BOMBING IN MERSIN

**¶1.** (U) One police officer and twelve civilians were wounded by a bomb which exploded at 11:40 am on Saturday, June 3, 2006, in downtown Mersin. The bomb reportedly was planted in a black plastic bag. Some press accounts attribute the detonation to a remote control device. No American citizens were injured. The bomb was placed in front of a tobacco kiosk on Ataturk Street which is in a busy shopping district. Mersin has increased numbers of foreign tourists, especially western Europeans, during the summer season.

**¶2.** (U) This is the second bomb in less than a week in Mersin. On Monday, May 29, 2006, at 10:30 am a small percussion-like bomb, which was placed in a trash barrel, exploded on Silifke Street near the fish market. There were no injuries.

**¶3.** (U) The Kurdistan Ozgurluk Sahinleri (also known by their Kurdish name, Teyrebazen Azadiya Kurdistan - TAK) Freedom Hawks of Kurdistan, have claimed responsibility for the June 3 incident, and police tell us that they suspect the same organization of perpetrating the May 29, 2006 incident.

REID